

Since only routine business is pending the city council might consider plans for completing the city hall—what?

IF

Emperor Francis Joseph is dead as reported, he has only best his nation across by a few days.

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GO to the Commercial club meeting tonight; Start with the bunch.

THE EVENING HERALD  
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## VICTORY IN GREAT BATTLE REMAINS IN DOUBT

French Claim Partial Success in Mighty Struggle East of Paris While Germans Maintain Absolute Silence

## Reported Allies Refuse a Request for Armistice to Bury Dead

### ALLIES THINK FIGHT WON

Meagre Reports Filtering Through from Vast Battle Field Indicate Decided Turn in Favor of Defenders.

#### GERMANS REPORTED SLOWLY FALLING BACK

Rumor of Request for Armistice to Bury German Dead and Care for Wounded While Unofficial is Credited

Paris, Sept. 8 (5:15 p. m.)—The leading military authorities of the city are convinced that General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French forces, is at last holding at bay the vast German army of invasion.

The worn-out troops of Emperor William, who may constitute an army totalling 250,000 men, are today encountering the relatively fresh soldiers of the French and British armies on ground selected by the allies, and in positions within easy reach of supplies and reinforcements.

The Germans are in a hostile country and at distances relatively great from their home bases. The invaders today are probably at their greatest strength, while the defenders of France, especially the British contingents, are being augmented steadily.

The Germans are reported in Paris unofficially to have asked for an armistice to bury their dead and care for their wounded. It is further understood that the allies refused the request.

The fighting on the long line to the east of Paris probably will last for a number of days, no quick and decisive outcome is expected. The results of the encounters of the last two days are regarded as distinctly favorable to the allies and there is an atmosphere of cheerfulness at the French war office this evening.

Paris, Sept. 8 (5:15 p. m.)—It is reported unofficially in Paris this afternoon that the Germans to the east of the city have asked for an armistice to bury their dead and care for their wounded.

It is understood that this request has been refused by the allies.

Paris, Sept. 8 (5:19 p. m.)—An official communication issued at Paris this afternoon says that the left wing of the allies' armies, comprising portions of the force defending Paris, continued to make progress.

The advance reaches from the banks of the river Ourcq into the region of Montmarte. The Germans are retiring in the direction of the Marne river between Meaux and Sezanne.

Washington, Sept. 8.—The French embassy today received from Bordeaux under last night's date the following:

"The German right wing (first army on the Ourcq and Grand Morin) has been attacked with advantage to our troops. On the line Meaux-Viry-le-François the battle today became general."

"The Cambrai (Belgian) and the Limbourg have been evacuated. Transports of German troops from the west to the east are reported from several sources."

"The fact that at the time of the capture of Lemburg twelve Austrian divisions were annihilated is confirmed."

Paris, Sept. 8 (5:25 p. m.)—Violent encounters have occurred

on the French center between Fere Champenoise and Viry le François at the southern point of the forest of Argonne. The French have fallen back northward. The Germans have lost ground.

Paris, Sept. 8 (5:25 p. m.)—Near Viry the movement of retirement is confirmed on the German side. On the French right a German division attacked on the axis of Châlons-Sainte-Soline and Nancy, but was repulsed to the northward, passing the forest of Champenoise.

"Further to the east the French troops re-occupied the crest of Mandy and the peak of Fourneau.

"There is no change in the situation in the province of Alsace."

LONDON WAITS IN SUSPENSE FOR NEWS FROM PARIS

London, Sept. 8 (9:40 a. m.)—The public is waiting, breathless, with the hope that the allies have finally taken the offensive, but the cautious tone of the official communications issued from France indicates that the forward movement of the allies is only a feint to ascertain the reason for the strange eastward swing of the German right.

No matter, however, what the forward movement may mean, a decisive battle cannot be long postponed. Meantime the western valley of the Seine, recently overrun by Germans, has been cleared of the enemy and has been given a breathing spell.

The unexpected swing of the Germans has caused a readjustment of the lines of the allies. The movement of the Germans was ascertained so promptly by the aeroplanes of the allies that abundant time was given for the shift. It is evident that the Germans now have before the front of their wedge-like advance the veterans of the allies' left wing, which underwent a terrible battering along the Franco-Belgian border. The ranks of these Franco-British forces have been reinforced and the losses have been replaced.

Another advantage enjoyed by the allies is the fact that their flanks are protected by the great fortresses of Paris and Verdun, while in the German rear Maubeuge is still held by the French, despite the fall of three of its fortresses.

In the eastern war theater General Ruzsky's Stonewall Jackson tactics have been checked by the strong fortress of Przemysl, but this delay will not prevent the general forward movement of the Russian forces along the border from Tisza to Lemburg. The Russians consider it necessary, however, to capture Przemysl so that the Austrians may not have a single stronghold left in Galicia.

Remarkable reports continue to come in regarding the speed of General Ruzsky's campaign. The soldiers slept on an average of three hours nightly and made thirty-five mile marches daily.

It is evident from reports received in Petrograd that the Austrians expected to make a long resistance at Lemburg, having accumulated stores sufficient to last a year. All these stores have fallen into the hands of the Russians, enabling them to quicken their campaign without wait, for their own transport trains.

PARIS ENCOURAGED BY JOFFRE'S BRILLIANT STRATEGY

Paris, Sept. 8 (6:10 p. m.)—Paris is optimistic this morning. Even the surprise at finding the Germans have been able to traverse nearly the entire Champagne country does not shake the confidence in the outcome of the great battle, which after all the maneuvers, is being fought on ground selected by General Joseph Joffre, the French commander in chief.

The famous turning movement of the Germans has finally resulted in a battle formation that puts their own right in jeopardy, as yesterday's advance of the allies' left proved.

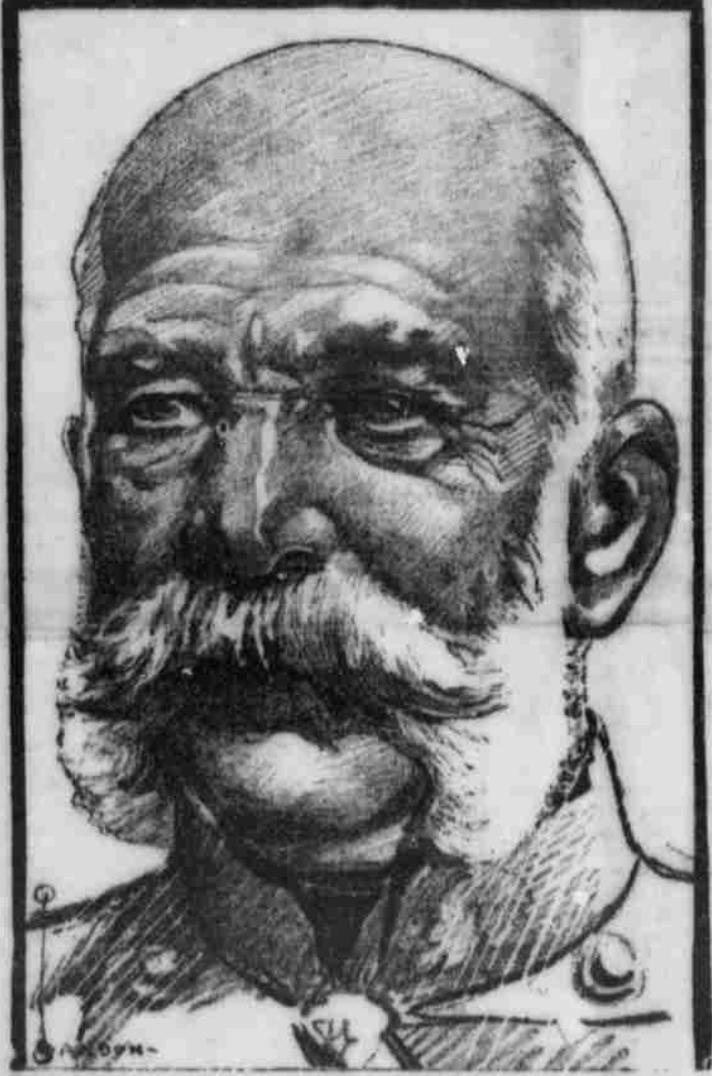
As far as may be inferred from the meagre official news, the army now called the army of Paris must be acting as an independent force, holding the convex side of a curved battle line and free to menace the communications of the enemy.

Reports from the Balkans say that the Turks are concentrating 80,000 men along the Tchadja line, outside Constantinople, with a view to opposing a possible Russian landing on the Black sea coast.

A serious controversy has occurred between Emperor William and Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg and Minister of Foreign Affairs Von Jagow, according to a newspaper dispatch from Berlin, over the diplomatic responsibility for the isolated diplomatic position in which Germany found herself at the outbreak of the European war.

The people of the United States were today asked in a proclamation signed by President Wilson, to pray for peace in Europe.

Francis Joseph, the Aged Emperor of Austria Died 12 Days Ago Says Report



FRANCIS JOSEPH.

London, Sept. 8 (5:35 p. m.)—The African World, a weekly publication, has received information through what it regards as a reliable Austrian source to the effect that the Austrian emperor, Francis Joseph, died twelve days ago.

The news of the emperor's death was suppressed in Austria-Hungary, the paper says, on account of the dangerous internal situation.

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Summary of Today's War News

One of the most important battles of the European war continues today east of Paris, along the front of the allied armies extending from Nanteuil le Haudouin to Verdun. The Germans in their turning movement have swept through the entire Compiegne country, and the two German columns are now hurling their strength against the front of the allied forces, which extends for a distance of 110 miles.

The meagre news filtering from the zone of the fighting today indicates that the allies have gained a decided success against the German right wing, which is reported to have suffered heavily in attempting to cross the river Marne.

A report, which was passed by the British censors, says that 250,000 Russian troops have been landed in France, presumably with the object of flanking the Germans in Belgian territory.

In the eastern theater of war the Russians, following their brilliant success at Lemburg, the capital of Austrian Galicia, are throwing their forces against the first Austrian army, which for three days has been desperately trying to break through the Russian line between Lublin and Kholm. Details of the fighting around Lemburg contain the statement that the Russians took 82,000 Austrian prisoners.

On the other hand, advice received from Berlin by the German embassy at Washington say that the Austrian eastern army advancing on Russian territory repulsed a violent Russian attack and captured 600 prisoners.

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The Germans lose, the situation of their entire army in France would be critical.

GERMAN MOVEMENT TO TRICK ALLIES QUICKLY DETACHED

London, Sept. 8 (5:25 p. m.)—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Paris, thirty miles northwest of Paris says:

"The battle of Creil, fought on Wednesday and ensuing days, was intended to mask the new German movement to break through the line

(Continued on Page Two)

FLOWER OF AUSTRIAN ARMY AT BAY

General Ruzsky Follows up Brilliant Victory at Lemburg with Desperate Attempt to Annihilate Aufenberg's Forces.

2,000 AUSTRIANS IN RUSSIAN PRISONS

German Dispatches Claim Decisive Victory Over the Invaders in East Prussia with Heavy Losses on Both Sides

Paris, Sept. 8 (5 p. m.)—An official statement given out here today says that Russian cavalrymen are now on the crest of the Carpathian mountains.

Continuing the announcement says that the Russian offensive against the Austrians in Galicia continues successfully. The Austrian fort at Niclaief, about 25 miles southwest of Lemburg, has been captured by the Russians, notwithstanding the fact that it was protected by armored gun turrets and three lines of fortifications. The Austrians retreated from Niclaief, abandoning their supply trains. The Russians took many prisoners and captured also 40 guns and great quantities of ammunition.

In northern Galicia serious fighting is going on at Rawarsko.

The first Austrian army, which had been advancing toward Lublin and Kholm, is retreating before the onslaught of our troops. We are taking prisoners, guns and ammunition.

In one of the field hospitals that fell into our hands were found 500 Austrian soldiers ill of dysentery. This illness is sweeping the ranks of the enemy.

In East Prussia only skirmishing is taking place.

Great strategic importance is attached to the Russian capture

250,000 RUSSIAN TROOPS LAND IN FRANCE

Definite Confirmation of Repeated Rumor That Vast Army of Cossacks Will Reinforce Allies.

POINTS TO FURTHER AID FROM THE CZAR

Official RUSSIAN REPORT OF GALICIAN CAMPAIGN

Washington, Sept. 8.—The Russian embassy here today issued the following statement in regard to the movements of the Russian army:

"On September 5 our troops took the strong fortifications of Mikolaj on the Dniester river. The masts of these works were covered by blanketing fire, the artillery placed in steel cupolas and the whole of the works surrounded by a triple line of wire entanglements. We took forty guns and large stores of supplies and ammunition.

"In northern Galicia serious fighting is going on at Rawarsko.

The first Austrian army, which had been advancing toward Lublin and Kholm, is retreating before the onslaught of our troops. We are taking prisoners, guns and ammunition.

"In one of the field hospitals that fell into our hands were found 500 Austrian soldiers ill of dysentery. This illness is sweeping the ranks of the enemy.

"In East Prussia only skirmishing is taking place."

Great strategic importance is attached to the Russian capture

President Proclaims National Day of Prayer for Peace in Europe

Washington, Sept. 8.—President Wilson today signed a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to pray for peace in Europe.

The president's proclamation sets aside Sunday, October 1 as a day of prayer.

By the President of the United States of America:

President Wilson's proclamation was as follows:

A PROCLAMATION

"Whereas, great nations in the throes of conflict, in His mercy and goodness showing a way where men can see none, have vindicated His children, healing peace again and restoring once more that concord among men and nations without which there can be neither happiness nor true friendship nor any wholesome fruit of toil or thought in the world; praying also to this end that He forgive us our sins, our wilfulness and many errors, and lead us in the path of obedience to places of vision and to thoughts and counsel that purge and make wise;

"And whereas, in this as in all things, it is our privilege and duty to seek counsel and succor of Almighty God, humbling ourselves before him, confessing our weaknesses and our lack of any wisdom equal to those things;

"And whereas it is the especial wish and longing of the people of the United States in prayer and council and all friendliness, to serve the cause of justice:

"Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do designate Sunday, the fourth day of October, next, a day of prayer and supplication and do request all God-fearing persons to repair on that day to their places of worship, there to unite their petitions to Almighty God, that overruling the counsel of men, setting straight the things they cannot

govern or alter, taking pity on the nations now in the throes of conflict.

By the President of the United States of America:

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN,

Secretary of State.

WOODROW WILSON

By the President.

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN,

Secretary of State.